



IFW

03500.017975.

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	)	
	:	Examiner: Anthony D. Fick
SHUNICHI ISHIHARA	)	
	:	Group Art Unit: 1753
Application No.: 10/549,900	)	
	:	
371(c) Date: September 20, 2005	)	
	:	
For: SOLAR CELL	)	December 21, 2006

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents, other than the U.S. patent documents, are enclosed.

The following documents are discussed at the following pages of the specification:

<u>Documents</u>	<u>Page(s)</u>
Haruo Itoh, et al., Journal of Crystal Growth, Vol. 45, 1978	3, 15
T. H. Wang, et al., Solar Energy Materials and Solar Cells, Vol. 41/42, 1996	4
Japan 10-98205	5
Japan 5-48128	6, 27
Japan 8-250433	30
Japan 2965094	33

According to a commercial database, U.S. Patent No. 6,387,780 is in the same patent family as Japan 10-98205, and U.S. Patent No. 5,246,886 is in the same patent family as Japan 2965094.

The Examiner's attention is also directed to the following U.S. Application:

<u>Application No.</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>	<u>Applicants</u>
11/501,005	08/09/2006	S. Ishihara N. Kawase

With respect to the documents cited in the September 19, 2005 Information Disclosure Statement, those documents were listed in the International Search Report and/or Written Opinion which issued in the corresponding international application. In addition, Japan 5-36611, which was cited in the September 19, 2005 Information Disclosure Statement, is discussed at pages 3, 6, and 27 of the specification.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the issuance of a first Office Action on the merits. Therefore, no fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)(2) is believed due. Nevertheless, the Commissioner may charge Deposit Account No. 06-1205, should any fee be due for filing this paper.

Applicant requests that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be initialed and returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



---

Damond E. Vadnais  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No.: 52,310

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO  
30 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York, New York 10112-3800  
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)				ATTY DOCKET NO. <b>03500.017975.</b>		APPLICATION NO. <b>10/549,900</b>	
				APPLICANT <b>SHUNICHI ISHIHARA</b>			
				371(c) DATE <b>September 20, 2005</b>		GROUP <b>1753</b>	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		6,653,554	11/25/03	Ishihara	136	258	
		6,387,780	05/14/02	Nishida	438	497	
		5,246,886	09/21/93	Sakai, et al.	437	228	
		2006/0194417	08/31/06	Ishihara, et al.	438	479	
		2005/0136576	06/23/05	Ishihara, et al.	438	162	
		2005/0066881	03/31/05	Nakagawa, et al.	117	18	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
		2965094	08/13/99	Japan			Abstract
		10-98205	04/14/98	Japan			Abstract
		8-250433	09/27/96	Japan			Abstract
		5-48128	02/26/93	Japan			Abstract
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
		Haruo Itoh, et al., "Characterization of Silicon Layers Epitaxially Grown on Metallurgical-Grade Polycrystalline Substrates", Journal of Crystal Growth, Vol. 45, 1978, pp. 446-453.					
		T. H. Wang, et al., "Growth of silicon thin layers on cast MG-Si from metal solutions for solar cells", Solar Energy Materials and Solar Cells, Vol. 41/42, 1996, pp. 19-30.					
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.